REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is in response to the non-final office action mailed August 31, 2010. Claims 1-7 and 30-35 remain pending in the application.

Applicants previously amended independent claims 1, 4, 6, 30 and 33 to clarify that a plurality of sensors corresponds to one particular magnet, and the one particular magnet is detected by the plurality of sensors. In the office action of August 31, 2010, the Examiner agreed that the amendment clarified any vagueness regarding how many magnets correspond to the sensors. However, the Examiner argues that Lenchik does in fact teach one particular magnet that is detected by a plurality of sensors. Applicants traverse the rejection for the reasons discussed below, since Lenchik clearly fails to teach or suggest a magnet and sensor arrangement whereby a *plurality* of sensors detect a particular magnet to determine position.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 4 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lenchik. The Examiner argues that FIGS. 10 and 13, and the corresponding description of Lenchik suggests two Hall effect sensors (both 909's) corresponding to a particular magnet (903). Applicants traverse the rejection since Lenchik clearly fails to teach or suggest a plurality of sensors corresponding to a particular magnet, and the one particular magnet being detected by the plurality of sensors. On the contrary, even if one assumes that a magnet is present in each end of connector element 903 of FIG. 10 in Lenchik, thereby containing at least two magnets (one at each end of connector element 903), each magnet corresponds to only *one* Hall

effect sensor. That is, one element 909 in the top portion 104 of the flip phone, and one element 909 in the bottom portion 106 of the flip phone.

The description of Lenchik clearly describes an interaction at *each* end of connector element 903. One interaction occurs at a surface between element 903 and the top portion 104 of the phone, and one interaction occurs at a surface between element 903 and the bottom portion 106 of the phone. In one embodiment (FIG. 11) a contact 1128 on the connector element 903 bridges pairs of position sensor contacts 1152. This clearly happens separately at either end of connector element 903. In the second embodiment (FIG. 12), a variable resistor is described wherein fixed contact 1260, resistive surface 1269, and gap 1265 are all formed on fixed element 909, and moving contact 1263 is affixed to connector element 903. Again, this interaction clearly occurs separately at both ends of connector element 903. Finally, the third embodiment, relied on by the Examiner, describes a magnet 1373 and a Hall Effect sensor 1377. As described at Col. 6, Line 25-27, "The magnet 1373 is preferably affixed to *an end of the connector element 903,* and the Hall Effect sensor 1377 is affixed to or embedded in a fixed element 909. The magnet 1373 may be comprised of multiple magnetic north and south poles, and may be comprised of multiple magnets or magnetic poles of different strengths and orientations" (emphasis added). This again clearly describes *one magnet* or multiple magnets corresponding to one Hall Effect sensor at one end of the connector element 903, and a *different* magnet or magnets at the other end of the connector element 903.

This understanding of Lenchik is further supported by the *shape* of the magnet shown in FIG. 13, which does not suggest a *single* magnet bending through the 90

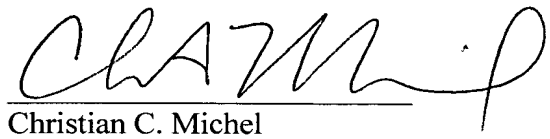
degree turn of connector element 903. Rather, Lenchik describes one or multiple magnets at one end of connector element 903 interact with a Hall Effect sensor at 909 of the top portion 104 of the phone, and one or multiple magnets at the other end of connector element 903 interact with a Hall Effect sensor at 909 of the bottom portion 106 of the phone. In any event, one or multiple magnets interacting with a single sensor is *not the same* as multiple *sensors* interacting with a particular magnet, as claimed. Since Lenchik clearly fails to teach or describe at least this claimed feature of independent claims 1, 4, and 30, the rejection must be withdrawn. Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reason.

The Examiner further rejected claims 2, 5, 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over the combination of Lenchik and Buxton. Claim 6 stands rejected over the combination of Lenchik and Yang. Claim 7 is rejected over Lenchik, Yang and Buxton. Claim 33 is rejected under Lenchik and Berrou. Claims 34 and 35 are rejected over Lenchik, Berrou and Buxton. Each of these rejections fail for the reasons discussed above with regard to Lenchik. That is, each rejection relies on Lenchik describing one particular magnet corresponding to, and being sensed by, multiple magnets. However, as discussed above, while Lenchik may describe one sensor sensing multiple magnets in either end of connector element 903, Lenchik does not teach or suggest multiple *sensors* sensing one particular magnet. Accordingly, each of the rejections must be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner

have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,



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